

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 00952 01 OF 02 170518Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----019810 170522Z /11

O 170404Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0083
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 00952

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORC, MARR, UNSC, XF, US
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

1. SUMMARY: ARAB GROUP REACHED NO DECISION TODAY REGARDING TIMING OF UNSC MEETING ON SOUTHERN LEBANON. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT LEBANON OR OTHER ARAB STATE WILL SOON ASK FOR UNSC MEETING; ARAB GROUP WILL CONVENE AGAIN MARCH 17 AT 10:30 TO DECIDE ON INSCRIPTION AND MAY ASK FOR MEETING AS EARLY AS SAME AFTERNOON. EGYPTIAN AND LEBANESE PERREPS WANT MEETING TO HAVE CONCRETE RESULTS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 00952 01 OF 02 170518Z

LEADING TO ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. MEGUID (EGYPT) HAS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF QUICK ACTION BY ARAB MODERATES IN CALLING FOR SC MEETING TO BLOCK MORE RADICAL ARABS FROM INTRODUCING EXTREMIST RESOLUTION AND LIMITING SECURITY COUNCIL TO ANGRY RHETORICAL EXCHANGE. TUENI (LEBANON) HAS MADE THIS POINT TO PRESIDENT SARKIS AND IS SEEKING URGENT INSTRUCTIONS. LEBANESE AND EGYPTIAN

PERREPS BELIEVE ARAB CONSULTATIONS ON ISRAELI INCURSION MAY PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR SEEKING TO RECONCILE EGYPTIAN /SYRIAN DIFFERENCES. TUENI INFORMS US THAT SYRIAN PERMREP ALLAF HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO WORK HARMONIOUSLY WITH LEBANON IN NEW YORK CONSULTATIONS. ON INSTRUCTIINS, WE BRIEFED LEBANESE AND EGYPTIAN PERMREPS AND WESTERN ALLIES ON THREE MAIN ELEMENTS ENVISAGED BY USG FOR INCLUSION IN A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. TIMING OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING. THE ARAB GROUP HELD LENGTHY DISCUSSION MARCH 16 ON QUESTION OF CONVENING SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. IT WAS DECIDED TO LEAVE INITIATIVE IN HANDS OF LEBANESE GOVERNMENT FOR NOW BUT WITH CLEAR INDICATIONS THAT SOME OTHER ARAB STATE WOULD CALL FOR A COUNCIL MEETING SOON IF LEBANON DOES NOT DO SO. ACCORDING TO LEBANESE PERMREP TUENI, ARAFAT IN LATE AFTERNOON INSTRUCTED PLO OBSERVER TERZI TO TELL ARAB GROUP THAT PLO WANTS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ARAB GROUP WILL MEET MARCH 17 AT 10:30 AM TO COORDINATE TACTICS; TUENI IS SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS URGENTLY. IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT THE GROUP WILL DECIDE AT THAT MEETING THAT INSCRIPTION OF THE ITEM SHOULD BE SOUGHT WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ARABS (OR LEBANON ALONE) MAY ASK FOR A MEETING AS EARLY AS SAME AFTERNOON (DISCUSSION OF THE ZAMBIAN COMPLAINT IN THE COUNCIL IS DUE TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 00952 01 OF 02 170518Z

CONCLUDE TOMORROW MORNING).

3. EGYPTIAN UN PERMREP MEGUID ASKED AMBASSADOR LEONARD TO CONVEY TO WASHINGTON THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING QUICKLY IN CALLING FOR A MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. FOR NOW LEBANON AND EGYPT STILL HAD THE SITUATION WITHIN THE ARAB GROUP UNDER CONTROL, HE SAID, BUT IF THEY FAILED TO ACT PROMPTLY, LIBYA AND THE PLO WOULD TRY TO PUSH THE GROUP IN A MORE RADICAL DIRECTION. MEGUID ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF DEMONSTRATING TO ARAB PUBLIC OPINION THAT ARAB GOVERNMENTS AND SECURITY COUNCIL ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ISRAELI INCURSION INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON. HE THOUGHT BEST WAY TO PROCEED WAS TO HOLD INITIAL MEETING MARCH 17 PM TO ALLOW NUMBER OF ARAB STATES TO MAKE THEIR SPEECHES, AND THEN TO ADJOURN OVER WEEKEND TO ALLOW TIME FOR CONSULTATIONS, INCLUDING WITH US, ON THE TEXT OF A RESOLUTION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT EGYPT WANTS SC MEETING TO PRODUCE RESULTS, NOT JUST ENGAGE IN RHETORICAL DEBATE AND SAID EGYPT WOULD FOLLOW LEBANON'S LEAD ON NATURE OF SC ACTION. MEGUID WAS VERY CRITICAL OF ISRAELI ACTION, STATING THAT BEGIN WAS DESTROYING ALL THAT HAD BEEN BUILT IN RECENT MONTHS. SADAT HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT

EGYPT DID NOT SUPPORT THE PLO TERRORIST ATTACK BUT THE ISRAELI REACTION WAS "VERY STUPID." LEONARD BRIEFED MEGUID IN GENERAL TERMS ON MAIN ELEMENTS WE ENVISAGED FOR UNSC RESOLUTION.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH LEBANESE PERMREP TUENI, LEONARD AGAIN OUTLINED OUR VIEW ON ELEMENTS FOR UNSC RESOLUTION. DURING DISCUSSION, TUENI RECEIVED CALL FROM SARKIS' DIPLOMATIC ADVISER (HADDAD?) TO WHOM HE CONVEYED

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 00952 02 OF 02 170527Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----019856 170528Z /11

O 170404Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0084
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 00952

EXDIS

SUBSTANCE OF OUR POSITION. TUENI INDICATED HIS SATISFACTION WITH REFERENCES TO IMMEDIATE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND PRESERVATION OF LEBANESE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND ASKED OUR ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY ISRAELI REACTION TO UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE. LEONARD SAID WE COULD EXPECT ISRAELIS WOULD NOT LIKE IT BUT THAT WE INTENDED TO MAKE SERIOUS EFFORT TO EXPLORE WITH THEM POSSIBLE UN ROLE AS WAY TO MEET THEIR CONCERNS. TUENI

SEVERAL TIMES STATED LEBANESE INTEREST IN SC MEETING
LEADING TO RESULTS, ESPECIALLY ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL.
LEBANON IS NOT INTERESTED IN STERILE DEBATE OR INEFFECT-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 00952 02 OF 02 170527Z

IVE RESOLUTION.

5. TUENI ALSO PROVIDED US WITH ASSESSMENT OF INTER-ARAB
CONSULTATIONS ON SOUTHERN LEBANON SITUATION. SYRIAN
PERREP ALLAF, HE SAID, HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO WORK
HARMONIOUSLY WITH HIM IN ARAB GROUP. MOREOVER, A
SYRIAN DELEGATION WOULD BE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS
MARCH 17 AM TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION INCLUDING
TACTICS IN NEW YORK. TUENI RECOUNTED THAT AT ARAB
GROUP LUNCH MEGUID HAD SUGGESTED THAT PRESENT SITUATION
SHOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO BEGIN RECONCILIATION OF
EGYPTIAN/SYRIAN DIFFERENCES OVER SADAT'S INITIATIVE.
TUENI SAID HE HOPED SC MEETING COULD LEAD AGAIN TO
UNIFIED ARAB POSITION. NOTING THAT SAUDI DELEGATION
WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON, TUENI FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT
THIS COULD ALSO PROVIDE OCCASION FOR SAUDIS TO PLAY
POSITIVE MEDIATING ROLE. FINALLY, HE COMMENDED KUWAIT
(ARAB SC MEMBER) FOR ALSO TAKING CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH.

6. PER DEPT INSTRUCTIONS, AMBS MCHENRY AND LEONARD BRIEFED
WESTERN FIVE LATE MARCH 16 ON GOALS WE SEEK IN SC AND
ELEMENTS OF RESOLUTION WE CONTEMPLATE. BARTON (CANADA)
SAID HIS GOVT'S POSITION WAS VIRTUALLY
IDENTICAL. VON WECHMAR (FRG) HAD EARLIER INFORMED
LEONARD THAT HIS GOVT WAS ALSO THINKING ALONG VERY
SIMILAR LINES, AND HUSSON (FRANCE) INDICATED GENERAL SUP-
PORT FOR SUCH COURSE. THERE WAS BRIEF DISCUSSION OF
VARIOUS PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN SETTING UP UN
FORCE AND OPPOSITION THERE MIGHT BE
FROM ISRAEL, SYRIA, SOVIETS AND CHINA. IT WAS NOTED THAT
EVEN IF SOVIETS ACQUIESCED, THEY MIGHT REFUSE TO HELP
FINANCE.
COMPOSITION WAS CITED AS DIFFICULT QUESTION AND RICHARD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 00952 02 OF 02 170527Z

(UK) ASKED IF WE CONTEMPLATED FOLLOWING UNEF/UNDOF PATTERN
OF EXCLUDING PARTICIPATION BY PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SC.
WE REPLIED THAT OUR THINKING ON THESE QUESTIONS WAS STILL
IN PRELIMINARY STAGE. ALL AGREED TO KEEP IN CLOSE
TOUCH AFTER BEING IN TOUCH WITH GOVTS. YOUNG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MEETINGS, UNSC RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN00952
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780118-0750
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780352/aaaabrzv.tel
Line Count: 223
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 79a67cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3284623
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON
TAGS: PORG, MARR, XF, US, IS, LE, UNSC, ARAB GROUP
To: STATE AMMAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/79a67cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014